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COUNTRY East Germany

TOPIC Military Information from Wittenberg Post.

EVALUATION	PLACE OBTAINED

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DATE OF CONTENT.

DATE OBTAINED _____ DATE PREPARED 6 November 1953

REFERENCES.

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS.

This is UNEVALUATED Information

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1. At the beginning of October 1953, the Beseler Kaserne in Wittenberg was occupied by an estimated 1,000 troops who wore red-bordered black epaulets with tank insignia. All windows of the quarters were lighted at dusk. Several T-34 tanks [redacted] JS-1 tanks [redacted] in the [redacted] area. Motor [redacted] motorcycles [redacted] [redacted] 25X1
2. At the beginning of October, the Flak Kaserne in Wittenberg was occupied by about 1,000 troops who wore red-bordered black epaulets including some with tank insignia. In late September and early October, unarmed troops were repeatedly seen engaged in close-order drill in the barracks area. Motor vehicles [redacted] were parked at the installation. 25X1
3. The former Arado plant was still occupied by about 400 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets and including about 50 percent with tank insignia, at the beginning of October. Eighteen T-34/85 tanks [redacted] stood in the north-western corner of the installation. Motor vehicles [redacted] belonged to the installation. 25X1
4. In mid-October, the Beseler Kaserne in Wittenberg was occupied by about 600 troops who wore red-bordered black epaulets with tank insignia. At the end of September, about 20 T-34/85 tanks moved from the installation toward the area of Teuchel, from where tank firing was heard on the two subsequent days. Truck [redacted] accompanied the tanks. On 12 October, [redacted] tanks [redacted] were parked in an open shed of the installation. Motor vehicles [redacted] belong to the installation. 25X1
5. In mid-October, the Flak Kaserne in Wittenberg was still occupied by about 1,000 troops who wore red-bordered black epaulets, including some with tank insignia. Ten T-34/85 tanks stood in the billeting area. On 13 October, 5 trucks, each with 25 soldiers, left the installation. Truck [redacted] were identified. Other trucks identified in the barracks installation [redacted] 25X1

CLASSIFICATION SECTION

25 YEAR
RE-REVIEW

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6. In mid-October, the Taunentzien Kaserne and the municipal installation on Arsenal Platz were occupied by about 550 soldiers who wore red-bordered black epaulets. All windows were lighted at dusk. Ten T-43 tanks

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about 22 BA-64 armored scout cars armored cross-country vehicles including 10 new M-3 three-axle vehicles, 6 AT guns and about 120 motor vehicles were parked at the barracks installation, at the municipal installation and in the cantonment on Nordend Strasse. Troops in the barracks installation engaged in driving practice with motorcycles and close-order drill at group level with and without arms. The supply depot in the Taunentzien Kaserne also supplied the units in the Beseler Kaserne, the Flak Kaserne and the Arado plant. New trucks and sedans identified in mid-October 1953

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7. In mid-October, the Beseler Kaserne was occupied by about 1,100 troops who wore red-bordered black epaulets. Tanks and SP guns were seen en route to the training area. Troops in the installation received close-order drill at group level with and without arms. Other soldiers received technical instruction at the tank sheds. They changed tank tracks, bogie wheels, etc. T-43 tanks belonging to the barracks installation

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JS-1 tank and SU-249 were also identified. Motor vehicles identified as belonging to the Beseler Kaserne in mid-October included radio truck

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Comment. Compared with another report covering the period until 7 October, the strength of occupation has allegedly not been changed prior to 13 October.

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mentioned in the present report, the 51st Gds Tank Regt and 78th Gds Hv Tank SP Regt can still be assumed stationed in the Beseler Kaserne, the 3d Gds Mtrcl Bn in the Taunentzien Kaserne, and the unidentified tank training battalion in the Arado Plant.

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